

Republican enters crowded U.S. Senate race

Tom Spink criticizes Clinton's plan, says health reform threatens freedom

By JEFF GOSMANO

The Battalion

Tom Spink, a Republican running for U.S. Senate, said on Monday he decided to enter the special election because he opposes President Clinton's proposed national health care plan.

Spink, an independent insurance broker, said although other candidates are stressing a broad range of issues, his focus will remain on attacking Clinton's health care plan.

"I'm saying this is the main issue to keep our free society," he said. "The issue of socialized medicine is the very essence of losing our free society."

Spink is vying for the Senate seat vacated by Lloyd Bentsen, now secretary of treasury for the Clinton administration.

He said if the government begins giving away medical coverage, Americans may eventually start to believe that "everybody deserves free everything."

Not only will health care reform fail to eliminate the budget deficit, Spink said it will also de-

crease the quality of health care in the U.S. Patients will have to wait in longer lines for inferior health care, he said.

The health care system should not be blamed for the budget deficit, Spink said, and he believes he is the only candidate who understands how the medical and insurance companies interact.

"The issue of socialized medicine is the very essence of losing our free society."

- Tom Spink, Republican U.S. Senate candidate

"I'm the only friend of medicine in this campaign," he said. "Doctors are our biggest ally, they're not our enemy."

He said litigation should be blamed for increasing costs because it "undercuts" both the medical and insurance industries.

Spink also said he opposes any new taxes. Taxpayers should not have to pay any new taxes until they see a freeze on government spending and more sacrifice from elected officials, he said.

"They're saying Americans should sacrifice while they are passing themselves pay raises," he said.

He said the best way to eliminate the deficit is to cut government spending.



JOHN BARTRAM/The Battalion

Republican senatorial candidate Tom Spink and son Sam Spink discuss campaign details in the underground foodcourt Monday. Bob Krueger presently is the interim senator.

"We need to balance the budget and not start any new programs," he said.

Sam Spink, a junior computer science major at Texas A&M University, said he is helping out his father's campaign efforts in Bryan-College Station.

"I'm helping out locally," Sam Spink said. "I've been handing

out bumper stickers and pamphlets and trying to help out whenever I can."

While most candidates use the electronic media to get their message to the voters, Spink travels "city to city in a three-cylinder Diahatsu" speaking with small business owners and local leaders.

Because 24 candidates have entered the special election, a runoff between the top two candidates may be necessary, Spink said.

For Spink to get enough votes to enter the runoff election, he said he is "counting on a big split-vote between the big names in the race."

A&M Regents support funds for education

The Texas A&M University System Board of Regents adopted a resolution Tuesday favoring two bills before the Texas Senate supporting the need for community education services.

Through the resolution, the board affirmed its support for Senate Bill 993, which calls for the establishment and funding of community education development projects, and for Senate Bill 994, which establishes community education child care services.

According to the resolution, the bills support the "critical need for community services, skills development, school dropout prevention programs, continuing education and training, special needs education, health services, child care services and other social services provided at the neighborhood level for citizens of all ages."

Regents Vice Chairman Raul E. Fernandez of San Antonio introduced the resolution and said community education is the key to facing Texas' challenges.

"Through his resolution, the board can show its support to community education entities in their efforts to obtain funding for these important programs," he said.

If passed, the bills would add to the definition of eligible expenditures from the Foundation School Fund and create access to funding for developmental projects in community education.

The bills are sponsored by Sen. Jane Nelson, R-Flower Mound.

TCA Cable viewers to watch broadcast of U.S. Senate candidate forum

By GINA HOWARD

The Battalion

Local cable customers have an opportunity to see a live forum tonight between U.S. Senate special election candidates in Decision '93 Forum.

The forum will be broadcast live at 8 p.m. on TCA Cable channel 17 from Trinity University in San Antonio.

Randy Rogers, TCA general manager, said the company is airing the program as a public service for the community.

"We were offered the program last week, and we felt like it would be of great interest," Rogers said.

Jeannie Kipp, TCA marketing manager, said specific candidates participating had not been confirmed.

Representatives from the San Antonio Express-

News, the Dallas Morning News, the Houston Chronicle and students from Trinity University will question the candidates in a panel format.

The program will air nationally on C-Span II, and it is sponsored by C-Span, the Cable Satellite Public Affairs Network and Paragon Cable in San Antonio.

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All freshman and sophomore girls planning to go through Fall Rush 1993 are invited!

April 14, 1993

6:00 - 9:00 open house

Casual dress

Student Services Building Rms. 110 and 111

The Battalion

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The Battalion (USPS 045-360) is published daily, Monday through Friday during the fall and spring semesters and Monday through Thursday during the summer session (except University holidays and exam periods), at Texas A&M University. Second class postage paid at College Station, TX 77843.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Battalion, 230 Reed McDonald Building, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843.

News: The Battalion news department is managed by students at Texas A&M University in the Division of Student Publications, a unit of the Department of Journalism. Editorial offices are in 013 Reed McDonald Building. Newsroom phone number is 845-3313. Fax: 845-2647.

Advertising: For campus, local and national display advertising, call 845-2696. For classified advertising, call 845-0369. Advertising offices are in 015 Reed McDonald and office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Fax: 845-5408.

Subscriptions: Mail subscriptions are \$20 per semester, \$40 per school year and \$50 per full year. To charge by VISA or MasterCard, call 845-2611.